

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. The resignation of G. M. Malenkov means a victory for N. S. Khrushchev, who is now the strongest Soviet figure, and a probable end of collective leadership in the USSR. Recent Communist Party releases have been signed by Khrushchev alone. Allegedly, V. M. Molotov's fate is also sealed as the Party leadership seeks younger men. Army support of the new regime is shown by the appointment of N. A. Bulganin.
2. Malenkov and Khrushchev both believe in Lenin's thesis that capitalism is doomed. Malenkov, fearing that the capitalists would attack the Soviet Union to avoid dying, advocated coexistence, including both apparent and actual concessions. He aimed at separating the Western peoples from the "warmongers" and at achieving a higher standard of living for the Soviet people. Khrushchev, while also fearing attack, advocates coexistence with no concessions and aims at military and economic parity with the United States. The Army is striving to catch up to the Western lead in atomic warfare assets and therefore pushes troop atomic warfare refitting, which requires an appreciable investment. Recent ideological differences are based on a revision of the economy to this goal, although this will lower living standards.
3. Economic redirection will entail: Party assistance against the people; Party assistance in revision of economic planning in heavy industry and the power program; maintenance of the present hegemony over the satellites, including the partition of Germany; and an unyielding policy in Europe and an aggressive flexible policy in Asia aiming at creating new unrests to raise conflicts of interest among the Western powers.
4. There will be increased Party ideology in foreign policy.
5. Conclusions: (a) Khrushchev defeated Malenkov by allying his personal aims with those of the military; (b) there will be increasing influence in foreign policy by the military; and (c) there will be less tactical flexibility in Soviet foreign policy.

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